MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*)

1. Assistant Commissioner	...	Nil.
2. Inspector	...	1
3. Sub-Inspectors	...	8
4. Clerks	...	3
5. Petty Officers	...	3
6. Peons	...	28

Widening the Alwaye Railway Bridge for Cart Traffic.

12. THE REV. FR. KURIAKOSE VETTIKKAPALLI: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have come to any definite decision as to the widening of the Alwaye railway bridge so as to render it useful for cart-traffic as well, and, if not, why?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: The Governments of Travancore and Cochin have come to an agreement as regards the fitting up of the railway bridges over the Alwaye main and branch rivers for road traffic. The cost will be borne in equal shares by the two Governments. Arrangements are in progress for the necessary investigation and the preparation of estimates.

Delay in acquiring Lands for Roads.

13. THE REV. FR. KURIAKOSE VETTIKKAPALLI: (*a*) Are the Government aware that the present protracted method of road-construction is, in many cases, partly due to the unnecessary delay caused by the land acquisition proceedings of the Land Revenue Department?

(*b*) Is it not possible to expedite land acquisition work by investing the superior officers of the P. W. D. with the power to acquire lands required for road construction, by introducing the necessary amendments in the Land Acquisition Regulation?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) Government are not aware of any undue delay in acquiring lands for road construction. The several steps prescribed by the law have to be taken and this must take some time. In urgent cases, the emergency Section of the Regulation is being availed of and immediate possession of lands given whenever necessary.

(*b*) Government do not consider it desirable to invest P. W. D. Officers with the powers of a Division Peishkar under the Land Acquisition Regulation.

THE REV. FR. KURIAKOSE VETTIKAPALLI: Do Government know why the sums budgeted for the Manjapara-Angamali road and the Kizhakambalam-Alwaye road were not utilised last year?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: Government have no information on that point.

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THE REV. FR. KURIAKOSE VETTIKKAPALL: Will the Government be pleased to make an enquiry?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: Yes.

Duties of Tahsildars and Assistant Tahsildars.

14. MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR: Will the Government be pleased to state the present duties of Tahsildars and Assistant Tahsildars?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: The information asked for by the member is given below:—

(*a*) *Duties of Tahsildars.*

Tahsildars are responsible for the efficient land revenue administration of their respective taluks in all its aspects and are expected to exercise adequate supervision over village officers by frequent inspection of their work on the spot and to attend to all important investigations and enquiries under the several Revenue Regulations and Rules.

They have, in addition, duties and responsibilities as Treasury Officers. They are also required to attend to income-tax work, collection of agricultural statistics, applications for agricultural loans, duties connected with the working of the Markets Regulation, election of members for the Legislative Council and the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, and arrangements in connection with Royal tours, and to numerous other duties of a miscellaneous nature. All Tahsildars are *ex officio* Second Class Magistrates, and five of them also try magisterial cases in their taluks.

For further details as to the revenue work of the Tahsildars and their work in relation to other departments and matters, the member is referred to pages 66 to 67 and 110 to 154 of Vol. III, *Land Revenue Manual*.

(*b*) *Duties of Assistant Tahsildars.*

The following are the main duties of Assistant Tahsildars:—

1. LAND RECORDS MAINTENANCE.

Assistant Tahsildars are in responsible charge of land records maintenance work, each in his taluk, subject to the professional control of the Land Records Superintendent. This work comprises the following:—

(*a*) The inspection of the work of the accountants employed on the demarcation and survey of *porambokes*, *viz.*, the verification of the original survey boundary of the *porambokes*, the inspection of the survey of *porambokes* by re-measurement, and the checking of the encroachments detected by the accountants in the course of the survey of *porambokes*.

(*b*) Checking on ground the *pokkuvaravu* subdivisions surveyed and 20 per cent. of the field stones repaired, renewed and newly planted in the *pakuthies*.

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